



Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue #7

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

6 July 2012

Pest Patrol Hotline

The information contained herein each week is available via a toll-free hotline. I will update the short message weekly for at least as long as the newsletter runs. Call the free number **(877) 285-8525** and select the messages you would like to hear. Select #1 for updates from the Southern Region. Select #3 for the Southeast, and then select #1 to hear my message. Text alerts are also available. The hotline is sponsored by Syngenta.

News from Above the Lakes

No news to report this week.

News from Below the Lakes

No news to report this week.

News from the Piedmont/Upstate

Jay Crouch, county agent covering Saluda, Newberry, Laurens, Fairfield, and Edgefield Counties, reported last week that “recent rains have cotton crop in pretty good shape right now. Beginning to apply PGR’s, insect situation basically quiet. Kudzu bugs are present in soybeans in every county I cover right now. Egg masses were very easy to find in Newberry, Saluda, and Edgefield counties towards the end of last week. Planning to monitor fields and treat when levels of immatures build.”

Cotton Situation

As of 2 July 2012, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 100% planted. About 42% of the crop is squaring, close to where we were last year at 45%, with the 5-yr average at 40%. The crop has set bolls on about 1% of our acres, compared with 11% last year and 4% for the 5-yr average. Conditions of the cotton crop are described as 4% excellent, 62% good, 31% fair, 2% poor, and 1% very poor. The crop still looks good, but we need a general rain front to slowly move through the state. **Soil moisture levels in the state have dropped dramatically** and were described as 15% very short, 43% short, and 41% adequate, and 1% surplus. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Insects in Cotton

All is quiet in cotton. There are some aphids that might require attention and some isolated areas that might have issues with plant bugs as the crop starts blooming. Check square retention and populations of plant bugs.

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.



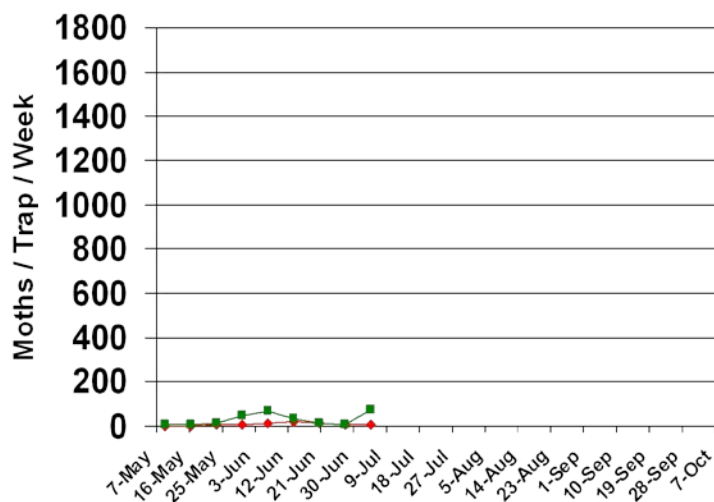
Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm



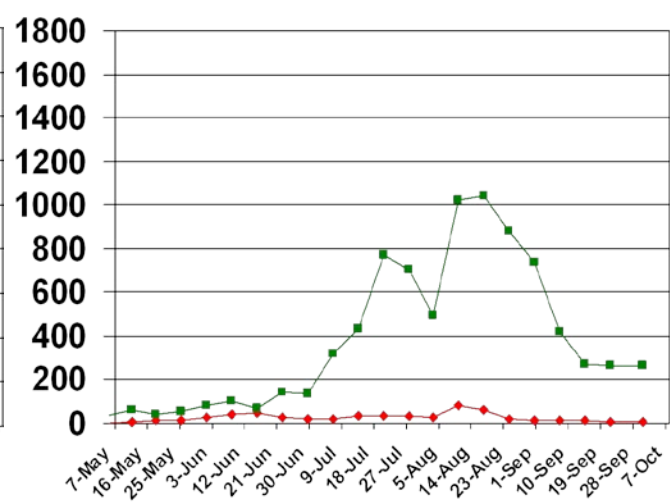
Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2011 for reference. **Bollworm captures are starting to increase.** Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for a very limited number of non-Bt-cotton acres. I provide these data as a measure of moth activity in our local area where I use these data as an indication of moth presence and activity near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2012



Pheromone Trap Capture SC - 2011



Soybean Situation

As of 2 July 2012, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had our progress at 97% planted, equal to the 5-yr average and very close to where we were last year at 95%. About 92% of planted soybeans have emerged, ahead of where we were last year at 82% and just ahead of the 5-yr average of 86%. Conditions of the soybean crop are described as 1% excellent, 56% good, 35% fair, 7% poor, and 1% very poor. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Kudzu Bug/Bean Plataspid

I recorded a presentation on the kudzu bug that can be viewed at the Plant Management Network (PMN) website. It has launched the new presentation in its Focus on Soybean webcast resource. The title is "Observations and Biology of Kudzu Bugs and Their Management in Southeastern Soybeans". This 12-minute presentation is open access through October 31, 2012. Viewers can also opt to see a four-minute executive summary version of this presentation. This shorter executive summary version is permanently open access courtesy of the United Soybean Board. View these two versions of the presentation at:

<http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/edcenter/seminars/soybean/kudzu>.



Our recommendations for managing kudzu bugs in soybeans that were put together during the winter months based on our experiences last year can be found at:

http://www.clemson.edu/extension/kudzubugs/pdfs/kudzu_bug_insecticide_soybeans.pdf

Visit our kudzu bug webpage for the latest information on this invasive pest:

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/kudzubugs/index.html>



Pest Management Handbook - 2012

Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2012 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at:

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/pest/index.html>

Need More Information?

For more Extension information: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/>

For historical cotton/soybean insect newsletters:

http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/cotton/pest_management/newsletters/index.html

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.

Associate Professor – Entomologist



Visit our website at:

<http://www.clemson.edu>

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.